

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi

March 6, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to the California Community Colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 119, as introduced, Muratsuchi. Community colleges: career technical education.

This measure would encourage the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with affected stakeholders, to develop options to address the longterm funding needs of career technical education and other workforce and training programs at the campuses of the California Community Colleges, and to submit those options to the Legislature before June 1, 2015 so it may address these funding concerns during its 2015–16 Regular Session.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The California Community Colleges is the nation's
2 largest system of higher education with 112 colleges that serve
3 more than 2.3 million students each academic year; and
4 WHEREAS, The California Community Colleges play an
5 important role in boosting our state's economy, and provide
6 students with the education, training, and skills necessary to keep
7 our state and nation globally competitive; and
8 WHEREAS, The California Community Colleges offer a broad
9 array of careeroriented courses, certificates, and associate degrees

1 through career technical education (CTE) or other workforce and
2 training programs; and

3 WHEREAS, Recent high school graduates, underemployed and
4 unemployed adults, incumbent workers searching for career
5 advancement, veterans, and college graduates seeking retraining
6 can all benefit from CTE and other workforce and training
7 programs; and

8 WHEREAS, A college degree or industry-recognized certificate
9 is the principal pathway to personal economic security; and

10 WHEREAS, After several years of budget cuts during the
11 recession, California community college, CTE, and other workforce
12 and training course offerings have been reduced; and

13 WHEREAS, California has seen cutbacks of more than \$500
14 million in programs that prepare individuals for employment; and

15 WHEREAS, CTE and other workforce programs are often
16 expensive due to the need for smaller class sizes and specialized
17 equipment and facilities; and

18 WHEREAS, Prioritizing existing CTE and other workforce and
19 training resources in major regional industry sectors may help
20 close the skills gap in our state's labor force; and

21 WHEREAS, CTE and workforce programs in the California
22 Community Colleges have lacked adequate long-term funding to
23 meet the needs of today's growing economy; and

24 WHEREAS, Any change to funding for CTE and other
25 workforce and training programs at the California Community
26 Colleges requires the enactment of legislation; now, therefore be
27 it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature encourages the Chancellor
30 of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with
31 affected stakeholders, including, but not limited to, experts in the
32 field of CTE, business and industry representatives, and faculty,
33 to develop at least three options to address the long-term funding
34 needs of CTE and other workforce and training programs at the
35 campuses of the California Community Colleges, in a manner that
36 adequately funds the programs that regions deem valuable to their
37 economies, and to submit those options to the Legislature before
38 June 1, 2015; and be it further

39 *Resolved*, That it is the intent of the Legislature during the
40 2015–16 Regular Session to address the long-term funding needs

- 1 of CTE and other workforce and training programs at the campuses
- 2 of the California Community Colleges; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 4 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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